

1. (Amended) A process of oxidation dyeing which comprises using N-acetylcysteine as a reducing agent and a laccase as an oxidizing agent in the presence of at least one oxidation dye precursor.

2. (Amended) A process for dyeing keratin fibres which comprises:

applying to the fibres a dye composition (A) comprising at least one oxidation dye precursor and N-acetylcysteine as a reducing agent in a medium which is suitable for dyeing; and

developing the color in the presence of air in an alkaline, neutral or acidic medium using at least one laccase incorporated into the composition (A) or into a composition (B), the compositions (A) and (B) being mixed together immediately before use or applied one after the other to the keratin fibres.

3. (Amended) The process according to Claim 2, wherein the composition (A) comprises N-acetylcysteine in an amount of 0.005% to 2% by weight relative to the total weight of the composition (A).

4. (Amended) The process according to Claim 3, wherein the composition (A) comprises N-acetylcysteine in an amount of 0.01%

to 0.25% by weight relative to the total weight of the composition (A).

5. (Amended) The process according to Claim 2, wherein the laccase is selected from the group consisting of plant laccases, animal laccases, fungal laccases, bacterial laccases, and recombinant laccases.

6. (Amended) The process according to Claim 2, wherein the laccase is produced by plants which carry out chlorophyll synthesis.

7. (Amended) The process according to Claim 6, wherein the laccase is extracted from an Anacardiacea plant; from a Podocarpacea plant; from Rosmarinus off.; from Solanum tuberosum; from Iris sp.; from Coffea sp.; from Daucus carota; from Vinca minor; from Persea americana; from Catharethus roseus; from Musa sp.; from Malus pumila; from Ginkgo biloba; from Monotropa hypopithys (Indian pipe); from Aesculus sp.; from Acer pseudoplatanus; from Prunus persica; and from Pistacia palaestina.

8. (Amended) The process according to Claim 5, wherein the laccase is obtained from Pyricularia orizae, Polyporus

versicolor, Rhizoctonia praticola, Rhus vernicifera, Scytalidium, Polyporus pinsitus, Myceliophthora thermophila, Rhizoctonia solani, Trametes versicolor, Fomes fomentarius, Chaetomium thermophile, Neurospora crassa, Coriolus versicol, Botrytis cinerea, Rigidoporus lignosus, Phellinus noxius, Pleurotus ostreatus, Aspergillus nidulans, Podospora anserine, Agaricus bisporus, Ganoderma lucidum, Glomerella cingulata, Lactarius piperatus, Russula delica, Heterobasidion annosum, Thelephora terrestris, Cladosporium cladosporioides, Cerrena unicolor, Coriolus hirsutus, Ceriporiopsis subvermispora, Coprinus cinereus, Paneolus papilionaceus, Panaeolus sphinctrinus, Schizophyllum commune, Dichomitius squalens, or variants thereof.

9. (Amended) The process according to Claim 2, wherein the laccase is present in amounts ranging from 0.5 to 3,000 lacu per 100 g of the composition applied to the keratin fibres.

10. (Amended) The process according to Claim 2, wherein the oxidation dye precursors of the composition (A) are selected from the group consisting of: ortho- and para-phenylenediamines; bis(phenyl)alkylenediamines; ortho- and para-aminophenols; heterocyclic bases; and addition salts thereof with an acid.

11. (Amended) The process according to Claim 10, wherein the oxidation dye precursors are present in a proportion of 0.0005% to 12% by weight relative to the total weight of the composition (A).

12. (Amended) The process according to Claim 2, wherein the couplers of the composition (A) are selected from the group consisting of meta-phenylenediamines, meta-aminophenols, meta-diphenols and heterocyclic couplers, and the addition salts thereof with an acid.

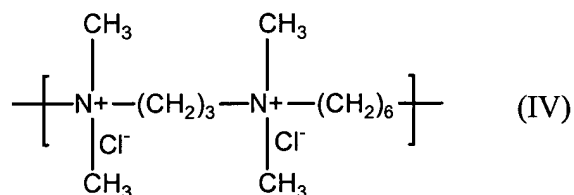
13. (Amended) The process according to Claim 12, wherein the couplers are present in a proportion of 0.0001% to 10% by weight relative to the total weight of the composition (A).

14. (Amended) The process according to Claim 10, wherein the addition salts are selected from the group consisting of hydrochlorides, hydrobromides, sulphates, tartrates, lactates, and acetates.

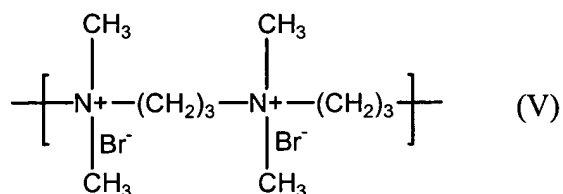
15. (Amended) The process according to Claim 2, wherein the composition (A), the composition (B), or a mixture thereof further comprises direct dyes.

16. (Amended) The process according to Claim 2, wherein the composition (A), the composition (B), or a mixture thereof further comprises at least one cationic or amphoteric substantive polymer.

17. (Amended) The process according to Claim 16, wherein the substantive polymer is a poly(quaternary ammonium) polymer consisting of repeating units corresponding to formula (IV) below:



18. (Amended) The process according to Claim 16, wherein the substantive polymer is a poly(quaternary ammonium) polymer consisting of repeating units corresponding to formula (V) below:



19. (Amended) The process according to Claim 2, wherein the composition (A) further comprises one or more adjuvants selected from the group consisting of sequestering agents, hair conditioners, silicones, preserving agents, opacifiers, anionic, nonionic or amphoteric surfactants, and mixtures thereof.

20. (Amended) The process according to Claim 2, wherein the pH value of the composition applied to the keratin fibres is between 3 and 11.

21. (Amended) A composition comprising at least one oxidation dye precursor and N-acetylcysteine in a medium suitable for dyeing a keratin fibre.

22. (Amended) A composition comprising a mixture of a composition (A) including at least one oxidation dye precursor and N-acetylcysteine in a medium suitable for dyeing a keratin fibre and a composition (B) including at least one laccase in an alkaline, neutral or acidic medium, wherein said composition is ready-to-use to dye a keratin fibre.

23. (Amended) A process for dyeing keratin fibres which comprises applying to the keratin fibres at least one composition according to Claim 21 containing at least one

laccase, for a period which is sufficient to develop the desired coloration.

24. (Amended) A process for dyeing keratin fibres, wherein a composition according to Claim 21 is mixed with a composition including at least one laccase in an alkaline, neutral or acidic medium prior to applying to the keratin fibres.

a2 25. (Amended) The process according to Claim 22, wherein the composition is applied at a temperature of between 20°C and 60°C.

26. (Amended) A multi-compartment device, for dyeing keratin fibres comprising one compartment containing a composition (A) including at least one oxidation dye precursor and N-acetylcysteine, and a second compartment containing an oxidizing composition (B) including at least one laccase.

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Please add the following claims:

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a3 27. (New) The process according to Claim 2, wherein the keratin fibres are human.

28. (New) The process according to Claim 2, wherein the laccase is present in amounts ranging from 1,000 to  $6 \times 10^7$  u units per 100 g of the composition applied to the keratin fibres.

29. (New) The process according to Claim 2, wherein the laccase is present in amounts ranging from 20 to  $3 \times 10^6$  ulac units per 100 g of the composition applied to the keratin fibres.

30. (New) The process according to Claim 2, wherein the pH value of the composition applied to the keratin fibres is between 4 and 9.

31. (New) The process according to Claim 2, wherein the pH value of the composition applied to the keratin fibres is between 6 and 8.

32. (New) A process for dyeing keratin fibres which comprises applying to the keratin fibres at least one composition according to Claim 22 for a period which is sufficient to develop the desired coloration.



33. (New) The process according to Claim 22, wherein the composition is applied at a temperature of between 35°C and 50°C.

34. (New) A kit for dyeing keratin fibres comprising the composition according to Claim 21 and an oxidizing composition including at least one laccase.

35. (New) The process according to Claim 12, wherein the addition salts are selected from the group consisting of hydrochlorides, hydrobromides, sulphates, tartrates, lactates, and acetates.

36. (New) The process according to Claim 19, wherein the hair conditioner is a silicone.

37. (New) The process according to Claim 2, wherein composition (A) further includes one or more couplers.